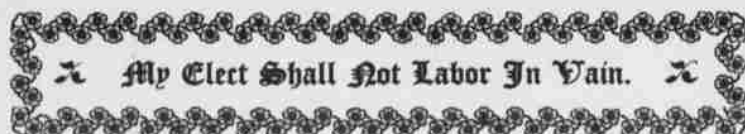


abused, and inured to the advantage of white manufacturers and traders, but was injurious to the tribe, as it tended to kill all native industries and helped toward the general demoralization of the Indian. Payments in goods are made only in cases where an isolated situation or other conditions make this method suited to the interests of the Indians.

Rations.—These were part of the merchandise payments. They were at first urged upon the tribes in order to keep them confined within their reservations instead of wandering in pursuit of game. After the destruction of the buffalo herds the beef ration became a necessity to the plains Indians until they were able to raise their own stock. Except in a few instances, where treaties still require this method of payment, rations are not now issued unless great poverty or some disaster makes it necessary.



O why dost thou inwardly murmur?
Is life but a fruitless land?
Will thy footsteps be wasted—if others
They guide o'er the trackless sand?

Shall the tear that has fallen in secret
And the strain on the breaking heart
And the last bitter drop in the chalice,
From God's sight ever depart?

And the long and the weary temptation
And the grief o'er the past—the past,
And the anguish of many struggles
Ere the crowning one at last?